REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 22-39 have been cancelled without prejudice, claim 40 has been amended, and new claims 41-47 have been added. New claims 41-47 have been presented to further protect specific embodiments of the present invention. Support for the claim amendment and new claims is readily apparent from the teachings of the specification and the original claims.

In light of the cancellation of claims 22-39, all of the rejections set forth in items 3, 6, 9, 10, 12 and 13 of the Official Action have been rendered moot.

With regard to the objection and rejection of claim 40 under 37 CFR 1.75(c) and 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, these objection and rejection have been overcome by the amendment to claim 40. Specifically, claim 40 has been amended to be in independent form as per the Examiner's suggestion. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that these objection and rejection can no longer be sustained and should be withdrawn.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the Application is now in condition for allowance. Such action is thus respectfully solicited.

If, however, the Examiner has any suggestions for expediting allowance of the application or believes that direct communication with Applicants' attorney will advance the prosecution of

this case, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

Takeshi SAKAI et al.

Lee Cheng

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MAY 0 7 2001 AND TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

TRAD CHAPTH 40 has been amended as follows:

40. (Amended) A method of inducing apoptosis comprising administrating [the] an apoptosis inducing agent [of claim 21] which comprises glycerolipid and/or glyceroglycolipid as the effective component(s).